# KFIRS Reporting Problem Areas

**Apparatus Time Ranges Not Matching Basic Module Time Ranges**

We are still having critical errors on the apparatus times for arrival and cleared not being within the same range as the arrival and cleared times on the basic module. This is a critical error even though the vendor software apparently isn't reflecting this error. We have advised FireHouse of this problem. Until the software gets changed or until USFA changes this from a critical to a warning error all departments need to make sure the time ranges for arrival and cleared both match in the basic module and the apparatus module.

**Grass Fires**

We ask that all departments use the wildland module for fires that you use the 14X or 17X series codes. If you use this module you do not need to complete the fire module. You find there are less fields to complete in the wildland module, plus the cause codes are much better to work with. This will also make our job easier to complete the annual wildland report we submit to KSU Forestry each year.

**Juvenile Playing Fires**

Since we started the new electronic reporting we have noticed a significant decrease in the number of child playing fires. In the paper version there were codes in the ignition factor that were applicable to child playing. In the computer version the only code we can use for child playing is code "19" in the factors contributing to ignition field. Since this is a required field and you can select multiple codes for this field, we ask that you use this code if it is determined that a juvenile was involved in the setting of the fire. Use this code only for juveniles (maybe ages 14 and under). Even if you use intentional, we segregate the juvenile set fires from the arson fires.

**100 Incident Type Use**

We are seeing quite a few incidents using this code for the incident type. We sent letters to all fire departments that had used this code for 2006. In most instances we were able to come up with a code that could be used. Much of the problem is the abbreviated definitions for the incident type. The definitions don't include fences, poles, tank batteries etc. All these fires will be under code 112. We are hoping that just because this is the first code in the fires, people aren't selecting this code for everything. If you have an incident that you are having problems coding, contact Brenda Reber at 785-296-0660 or John Weckerling at 785-296-4198 for assistance.

**Version Updates**

Everybody that is using FireHouse software should be on version 6.2.2 or 6.3.10. If you haven't received these versions, get with John Weckerling to get this version. It might be because your form that was filled out when you got the software is incorrect and the wrong person is getting the updates. All users need to make sure their vendors are keeping them with up-to-date versions.

**Exporting Transaction Files Via E-Mail Inside Software**

Many of you are still having problems exporting the transaction files within the e-mail function in FireHouse software. If your e-mail or internet provider requires a user name and password to get into your e-mail, then the e-mail function inside of FireHouse is not going to work. You will need to change the screen that asks how you want to save the transaction files to "save on hard drive". You will then need to open you regular e-mail and make that transaction file an attachment to your e-mail. The transaction file will be found in C:\program files\firehouse software\NFIRS. The file name will start with KS then your FDID and the month and year you exported the file. i.e. KSSN999062006 where KS is the state, SN999 is the FDID and 062006 indicates it was exported June 2006. Brenda always responds within one day after receiving your e-mail file. If you don't hear from her then your file was not sent/received. Her e-mail address is reberb@ksfm.state.ks.us

**Critical Error Reports**

When you receive these reports you need to review the incident and correct these errors. USFA only uses valid incidents for their data analysis so any incidents that have critical errors are not used in their statistics. Just because there is not an error in your software does not mean your software is correct. Your vendor may have made an error when it set up the critical error rules for the fields.

**Use of "ENTER" key in Directions or Narratives**

Please do not use the "Enter" key when entering directions or typing in the remarks/narrative fields. The text will automatically wrap as you type in the fields.